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**File Code:** 1950; 2800  
**Date:** December 11, 2018

Dear Interested Party:

The Ouachita National Forest, Caddo-Womble Ranger District, has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the 2017 Quartz Nominations Project. The project is located in Montgomery County, Arkansas and includes allowing 56 acres of quartz exploration and mining operations on four tracts in the following locations:

- 10 acres in Section 6, T2S R23W and Section 1, T2S R24W (OQC-275)
- 15 acres in Section 4, T2S R24W (OQC-277)
- 11 acres in Section 35, T1S R24W (OQC-280P)
- 20 acres in Section 7, T2S R24W (OQC-281P)

The proposed project is an activity implementing a land management plan and is subject to the pre-decisional objection process at 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B.

The EA is available on-line at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54472>.

Documentation is also available for review at Caddo-Womble Ranger District office in Mount Ida, AR.

### **How to Comment and Timeframe**

The opportunity to comment ends 30 days following the date of publication of the legal notice in the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments per §218.2 regarding the proposed project or activity during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection §218.24(b)(6). For issues to be raised in objections, they must be based on previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project or activity and attributed to the objector. The publication date of the legal notice in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to submit written comments on a proposed project or activity. The time period for the opportunity to comment on a proposed project or activity to be documented with an environmental assessment shall not be extended. It is the responsibility of all individuals and organizations to ensure that their comments are received in a timely manner.

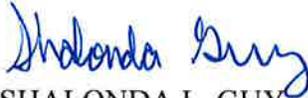
Written comments must be submitted to: Shalonda Guy, District Ranger, 1523 Hwy 270 E, Mt. Ida AR 71957 or fax to (870) 867-3338. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc, .docx) to [comments-southern-ouachita-caddo-womble@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-southern-ouachita-caddo-womble@fs.fed.us). For objection eligibility, each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments



regarding the proposed project or activity must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request §218.24(b)(8). Please state "2017 Quartz Nominations Project" in the subject line when providing electronic comments, or on the envelope when replying by mail.

After considering your comments, the Forest Service will finalize the EA. Prior to decision, an objection period will be provided on the EA and a *draft* Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact. If you have questions about this project or would like more information, please contact Andrew McCormick at (501) 321-5285 or [andrewtmccormick@fs.fed.us](mailto:andrewtmccormick@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,



SHALONDA L. GUY  
District Ranger